

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 AID-05 IO-10 /069 W
----- 020412

R 041106Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8691

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

C O N F I D E N T I A L ISLAMABAD 1070

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PK, IN, PC

SUBJECT: INDIAN ACTIVITY IN PERSIAN GULF AREA

REF: A. NEW DELHI 1421; B. ABU DHABI 259

1. MFA DIRECTOR GENERAL (NEAR EAST) SHAHID AMIN TOOK RATHER RELAXED ATTITUDE IN DISCUSSION WITH POL COUNSELOR OF RECENT INDIAN ACTIVITY IN GULF AREA, AS OUTLINED IN REF A. FOCUSING PRINCIPALLY ON SHEIKH ZAYID'S VISIT TO INDIA, OBVIOUSLY TO PAKS THE MOST IMPORTANT OF THESE DEVELOPMENTS, AMIN SAID THAT GOI'S INVITATION HAD FIRST BEEN MADE IN 1965, AND ITS ACCEPTANCE LAST YEAR WAS THE RESULT OF THE IMPROVEMENT IN INDO-PAK RELATIONS. THIS, HE SAID, HAS LED THE GULF STATES TO CONCLUDE THAT CLOSER TIES WITH INDIA COULD BE WORKED UP WITHOUT DAMAGE TO RELATIONS WITH THE GOP. WITHOUT GOING INTO DETAILS, HE SAID GOP HAD RECEIVED FROM UAE "AT HIGHEST LEVEL" ASSURANCES THAT IT WOULD MAKE NO MOVE VIS-A-VIS INDIA WHICH WOULD ADVERSELY AFFECT ITS "SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP" WITH PAKISTAN.

2. AMIN ADMITTED TO SOME SURPRISE AT LENGTH OF TIME ZAYID HAD SPENT IN INDIA. HE SAID PAKS HAD NO WISH TO DRAW VEIL
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BETWEEN GULF STATES AND INDIA, EVEN IF THEY HAD CAPABILITY

TO DO SO. HE VOLUNTEERED THAT INDIANS "HAD A LOT TO SHOW
ZAYID" AND STATED
MILDLY THAT SHEIKH MAY HAVE BEEN IMPRESSED
WITH WHAT HE SAW THERE.

3. AMIN SAID HE EXPECTED THE INDIANS TO CONTINUE THEIR
STEPPED-UP ACTIVITIES; THIS WAS ONLY NATURAL GIVEN
THE GOI'S POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC INTERESTS. IT WAS EQUALLY
NATURAL, HE SAID, FOR THIS TO BE SEEN IN TERMS OF INDO-PAK
RIVALRY. BUT HE PROFESSED CONFIDENCE--AND THIS IS ALMOST
CERTAINLY WIDELY SHARED HERE--THAT PAKISTAN'S RELIGIOUS/
CULTURAL TIES WITH THE GULF STATES AND THE AWARENESS ON THEIR
PART THAT SHE HAD NO BIG POWER AMBITIONS IN THE AREA
GIVE HER ADVANTAGES WHICH SECURE HER POSITION THERE AGAINST
ANY INDIAN "CHALLENGE".
LUPPI

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Message Attributes

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